

THE MACON BEACON

67th YEAR

MACON, MISSISSIPPI, FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1916

NUMBER 36

In Case of Victory

IV. Russia

"We need an outlet to the sea. It was not for that we went to war, yet without it we cannot end the war." In those words Prof. Paul Milukoff in the Russian Duma only a few weeks ago expressed the chief aspiration of his government.

Russia is hemmed in. The empire covers one-seventh of the land surface of the globe and rules over one-tenth of the human race, yet it has nowhere a convenient outlet to the open ocean. On the west its shipping must pass through the narrow and easily obstructed straits between the Baltic and the Kattegat. On the south it has no outlet except through the Dardanelles, even now in possession of an enemy. On the north coast it has ports, but during many months of the year ice closes all of them to shipping except the new port of Ekaterina. In the far east it has Vladivostok, which also is often ice-locked, and which can be reached only by crossing two continents over a single line of railway.

For centuries Russia has tried to acquire Constantinople and the Bosphorus. Many times it has been within striking distance of the goal, only to be foiled by other nations acting in behalf of what is known as the "Concert of Europe." Great Britain fought the Crimean war to frustrate that Russian ambition. Moreover, it intervened after the Russo-Turkish War of 1878, and overthrew the treaty of San Stefano, which would have brought Russia within sight of its cherished purpose. It is clear that, if the Entente allies are victorious, Great Britain will now offer no objection to the transfer of Constantinople to the power that it so long distrusted. For Russia it is apparent now or never, and the government and the people are resolved not to lay down their arms until the dream of centuries is realized.

But the Dardanelles is not the only hope of Russia. Nothing could be more disastrous to its interests than the accomplishment of the German purpose—"from Berlin to Bagdad." The whole "Eastern question" is concerned, and in the opinion of Russia now is the time to settle it forever. As long as the question is open there must be friction between Russia and Austria. Russia wishes to dominate the Balkan states. Defeat means the extinction of Serbia and Montenegro, the end of Russian influence in the Balkan peninsula and the transfer of the region nominally to Austria, but really to Germany.

Obviously, Russia stands to gain or to lose more than any of its allies. Victorious, it will achieve ends that have spurred its rulers and statesmen to action during many centuries. Defeated, it will be hemmed in still further and will suffer a certain amount of dismemberment besides. As in the case of France, the sentiment of neutral peoples toward Russia has changed materially in the last two years. The nations knew that Russia was valorous in battle, but they regarded it as little more than half civilized, and the government as despotic and brutal. If that estimate has not been wholly abandoned it has at least been considerably modified. — Youth's Companion.

Hamlet Was Mad

"I went to see Hamlet last night," said a man to a critic. "H'm, indeed!" said the critic, wrinkling his high brow. "And now tell me, do you think Hamlet was mad?" "I know darn well he was," said the other. "There weren't three dozen people in the house." — Exchange.

ENGINE FOR SALE

15-horsepower gas or oil burner engine, mounted; practically new; will sell at almost half price; reason for selling; want to try out tractor; also small grist mill; engine now running thrasher. It can be seen at Mr. Geo. Richardson's place.

J. Q. POINDEXTER.

FROM THE PEOPLE

Mr. Brame Tells of the Democratic National Convention.

Macon, Miss., June 21, 1916.

Editor Beacon:

Since my return home from the great National Democratic Convention which was held at St. Louis, I have concluded to give you and the people of the county an outline of what I saw and heard.

The Mississippi headquarters were at the Marquette hotel, three or four blocks away from the Coliseum where the convention was held. There was a fairly good representation from our state, but when I looked around and saw the great number of delegates and onlookers that came from other states in the Union, I felt like our people were not taking the interest in this great event that they should take.

The convention was called to order by Chairman McComb on Wednesday morning and Governor Glynn of New York was chosen as the temporary chairman, and Senator Ollie James of Kentucky was elected permanent chairman. Gov. Glynn, it is claimed, made one of the most magnificent soul-stirring and patriotic speeches that was ever delivered by anyone on such an occasion. He was in splendid voice and every word could be heard throughout that great auditorium, where there must have been at least twenty thousand people. No doubt many of the Beacon's readers have had the pleasure of reading this great speech. There was no mistake made in the selection of Gov. Glynn to present the keynote of the campaign of our great party. After conclusion of this speech, the various committees were selected and the convention adjourned until the next day. On the following day, the chairman, Ollie James, made a great speech. A great many thought it was equal to Gov. Glynn's. Senator James is a very large, commanding person, being something over six feet tall, and he had equally as good a voice as Gov. Glynn, and had the strictest attention during the entire time he was speaking. The demonstrations by the audience are almost indescribable. The enthusiasm on every side was greater and more deadly in earnest than anything that I ever witnessed.

The convention then adjourned until Thursday night at nine o'clock. Having been invited out, along with the Mississippi delegation, to an entertainment at the Sunset club, we did not reach the Coliseum until after the convention had assembled. When we arrived, we found the streets and doors around the great building blocked by a crowd estimated to be twenty-five thousand in number. And no one, not even a delegate, could get through that crowd without the aid of two or three policemen. Bryan made one of his characteristic speeches that night, which of course, captivated the crowd. The best part of it though, was that it was a speech, which showed he was loyal to Wilson.

Another session was held the next day. While waiting for the committee on Resolutions to report, Senator Reed of Missouri also made quite a telling speech. After the committee had reported, the session adjourned sine die. I forgot to say that Wilson and Marshall were nominated with but one dissenting voice, that was by a delegate from Chicago, an unrecruited Irishman named Burke. He claimed that he was instructed to vote against Wilson. All of the big men of the party who were there are hopeful and believe that we are going to have a great Democratic convention in St. Louis twelve years ago. I do not think there were over twenty-five or thirty ladies in the hall at any session thereof. I do not think I ever estimate when I say that at every session of this last convention there were from two to three thousand women present and there were thousands on the outside who were unable to procure tickets of admission.

We men folks may say what we please about the suffragettes but in less than twenty-five years I believe the women will be voting in every state in the Union. I want to ask this question: "Have you ever known the good women to start out to accomplish something where they did not succeed?" I know that it will be difficult to ever convince the men of the South that it is the proper thing for a nice sweet woman to vote and engage in politics.

I am pleased to say that everything was harmonious with the Mississippi delegation. And they even accorded a hearing to three representatives of the suffragists, every one of whom was applauded for what was said.

We are proud of the Mississippi colony who are now making St. Louis their home. They are a royal set of fellows. There are a good many of your readers who are acquainted with Charlie Williams who lived here once as a young lawyer, his brother R. P. Williams who once practiced law in Meridian, and Frank Curlee who went from Booneville, Miss. These ex-Mississippians did everything in their power to make our stay in the city as pleasant as possible. They wined and dined the delegation, gave them automobile rides and excursions on the river; in fact nothing was wanting on their part to make our stay in St. Louis, while not in the convention, as agreeable as possible. Our hats will always be off to the great City of St. Louis, and to these Mississippians for their royal entertainment of the Mississippi delegation.

Yours,
T. W. BRAME.

Bankrupt Law Should Be Repealed

Our national bankrupt law should be repealed. It is the most vicious law upon our Federal statutes. It is fundamentally wrong. Its unjust effects are so many and so manifest that one advocating its repeal before an intelligent public need not go into detail or lengthy argument.

In former times when unfortunate men were imprisoned for debt there was good ground for a bankrupt law invocable by honest debtors. But the barbarous custom of imprisonment for debt no longer prevails; therefore the true object of a bankrupt law no longer exists.

That at intervals during more than one hundred years the Congress of the United States has enacted bankrupt laws does not meet the argument. There are perhaps more precedents for that which is bad.

Our bankrupt law not only impairs the obligation of contracts, but it destroys property and encourages dishonesty.

Credit is made hazardous—legitimate business is endangered—the unscrupulous are made more audacious and the weak are made more venturesome when such a law is on our statute books.

A very small proportion of the business in the United States is transacted for actual money. Without confidence and credit our commerce virtually would be destroyed. Therefore, credit should be highly valued, wisely protected and in every way encouraged. It furnishes work for the laborer and bread for the needy and helps in all that is for the good of men. Therefore, promises, for right purposes, agreements, contracts, obligations, honor and honesty should be held sacred.

Creditors on many occasions need to be merciful, but no one save the creditor can justly relieve the debtor. The fundamental right to so relieve does not exist in government. One who fails to pay does not cease to owe.

It would be a startling revelation to the public if all the hidden and illegitimate transactions of bankrupts and the attorneys who practice in these courts were laid bare to public gaze and knowledge. Many of the lawyers who practice in the bankrupt courts of our country would be disgraced if their perfidy and infidelity to their clients were made known.

The Democratic party, now in power, can give additional evidence of its good faith and honesty of purpose if it will repeal the bankrupt law.—Collins Commercial.

Let Your Boy Enlist

Does your son want to enlist in the National Guard?

If so, let him go forthwith to the recruiting station and sign the muster roll.

Don't answer him with the cowardly excuse that you didn't raise your boy to be a soldier.

Neither did you raise him to be a mollycoddle. If you did, you have been guilty of a grievous injustice.

The boy knows far better than you do, whether it is his duty to offer for service.

If he has reached his majority, it is up to him to say whether or not his country is calling him.

Your ideas or opinions should have nothing whatever to do with it.

A man's duty to his country is a question that he alone can determine.—Jackson News.

SUMMER PANTS

—AT—

LAMBERSON'S

A good fitting pair of pants adds largely to your appearance.

It is just as easy to procure good fitting pants as any other kind.

Wear CURLEE PANTS, they are modeled on lines which assure a perfect fit and the biggest values on earth. The same prices the world over—

\$2.50, \$3.50
and \$5.

Aside from this line of good Summer Pants at \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00.

Yours for business,

W. M. Lamberson

Difference of Opinion

According to a story which the New York World declares came into its office well authenticated, a visitor at Sagamore Hill the other day put this question to Colonel Roosevelt: "Colonel, what do you think is the greatest, most outstanding difference between President Wilson and Justice Hughes?"

Roosevelt's reply came back like a whip-snapper: "There isn't any difference between Wilson and Hughes" said he "that a barer couldn't remove in ten minutes."

Whether rightly or wrongly, Woodrow Wilson has been pictured as a man who is cold, deliberate and dispassionate—a man to whom even his closest friends could not warm up. It is interesting to note that Mr. Hughes is depicted as the same sort of character. Indeed, the weather in the Republican convention is said to have touched zero when the nominations had been finished. Victor Murdock, the red-headed chairman of the Bull Moose national committee, had this thought in mind when in a speech in the auditorium convention, he referred to the Republican ticket as "that tribute to the Arctic circle."

However, whatever may be the similarity between Wilson and Hughes in this respect, the progressers are certainly able to distinguish a very wide difference in other respects. Without waiting to hear from Mr. Hughes his definition of "Americanism" and undivided allegiance to America, the German-American press has gone over to Hughes in a body. It is to be judged from this that without having to meet any of the responsibilities of the diplomatic problems brought about by the war in Europe, and without having made any decisions with respect to American rights and international law, Mr. Hughes finds more favor at Berlin as a candidate for President of the United States than Woodrow Wilson.—Jackson News.

"I understand," said Mrs. Twickenbury, "that Germany has invented a new and very powerful explosive."



A Sale of Millinery

that is without parallel commences

Saturday, July 1st.

Attend this sale, and secure a new stylish hat at a fraction of the former price.

\$10.00 for \$5.00

\$7.00 for \$3.50

\$5.00 for \$2.50

These hats are of the very latest models including smart street hats, large summery sailors, beautifully trimmed with the much desired flowers.

White hats and the latest styles in Velvet Crowns for mid summer.

MRS. W. F. HICKMAN

A National Extravagance

Human carelessness causes most fires. Acting upon this fact, many foreign municipalities never have a conflagration, or even a little blaze, but that somebody goes to jail for it. The result of this system is a very small fire waste annually.

Among our national extravagances, none more conspicuous and numerous than our annual losses by fire, and from an estimate of the property damage for the first five months of 1916, it looks as if the insurance companies are in for an unusually hard year.

The total loss to the end of May was over \$25,000,000. This sum is nearly \$1,000,000 greater than the total for the same months of the preceding year. In May of this year there were eight fires which cost their respective communities more than \$250,000 each.

Except in the case of earthquake or lightning, fires are due to some condition of human inefficiency.

But it is our national habit to sympathize with losers by fire, no matter what the cause. Only in cases of loss of life do we ever attempt to impress property owners with a sense of their personal responsibility for a disaster.

The European way seems hard to Americans, but it has its points.

If the owners or occupants of property in this country on which a fire occurred were looked upon as a menace to public welfare and held accountable to the community, fire statistics could shortly be registered in much smaller figures than those for the first half of this year.—Jackson News.

"An now bruddern an' sistern" said the old colored parson, "de collection will be taken up. Ah jia wants ter say ter yo'-all dat while de white-wash ob salvation am free, de pahty behin' de brush am got ter live—an Ah am dat pahty."

White Wyandotte
Apply at Bookstore.

Eyes from pure blood
lowly at the per setting.